



COMMONWEALTH OF MASSACHUSETTS
EXECUTIVE OFFICE OF ENVIRONMENTAL AFFAIRS
DEPARTMENT OF ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION
ONE WINTER STREET, BOSTON, MA 02108 617-292-5500

MITT ROMNEY
Governor

KERRY HEALEY
Lieutenant Governor

ELLEN ROY HERZFELDER
Secretary

ROBERT W. GOLLEDGE, Jr.
Commissioner

April 9, 2004

Dear Municipal Official,

The current phase of the Department Approved Recycling Program (DARP) is due to expire on June 30, 2004. As you know, transfer stations and disposal facilities are not required to conduct comprehensive waste ban inspections on waste loads from municipalities whose recycling programs meet the DARP criteria. Historically, the Department has instituted new criteria at the beginning of each two-year DARP phase and required municipalities seeking DARP status to reapply at that time.

The Department has reviewed the current DARP criteria and believes it is in the best interest of the program to extend the DARP exemption for another 18 months, making the new expiration date December 31, 2005. In addition, we are proposing a minor modification to the public education portion of the criteria as follows:

In lieu of conducting a community-wide recycling mailing (currently a mandatory criterion), municipalities may choose an alternate: updating their municipal recycling data on the Earth 911's web site (www.earth911.org) at least annually and using the site throughout the year to publicize seasonal or special events, such as household hazardous waste, electronics or Christmas tree collections. This alternate criterion will allow municipalities to maintain their DARP status even if they are unable to conduct a community-wide recycling mailing. DEP will soon mail information to all communities on how to update Earth 911's recycling data online, or through fax or mail.

If your community currently has DARP status, you do not need to do anything at this time. DEP will automatically extend your DARP status until December 31, 2005. Solid waste facility operators will be notified of this extension no later than June 30, 2004.

A list of Massachusetts municipalities with current DARP status can be found at: <http://www.mass.gov/dep/recycle/cities.htm#darp>. If your community does NOT have DARP status and would like to apply, please visit the website above to download the application.

If you have any questions regarding the DARP please contact Brooke Nash at 617-292-5984.

Sincerely,

James C. Colman
Assistant Commissioner
Bureau of Waste Prevention

This information is available in alternate format. Call Debra Doherty, ADA Coordinator at 617-292-5565. TDD Service - 1-800-298-2207.

DEP on the World Wide Web: <http://www.mass.gov/dep>



Printed on Recycled Paper